

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 126236

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 126236 ACTION USUN LONDON ISLABABAD
NEW DELHI MOSCOW PEKING PARIS GENEVA IAEA VIENNA VIENNA
CANBERRA 13 JUNE REPEATED TOKYO 17 JUN

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 126236

E.O11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, XO, PK, IN, PARM, PFOR, TECH

SUBJECT: QUESTION OF EXPANDED SECURITY ASSURANCES FOR
PAKISTAN IN SECURITY COUNCIL FOLLTWINING INDIAN NUCLEAR TEST

REF: USUN 2069 (NOTAL, BEING REPEATED PARIS, VIENNA,
CANBERRA)

1. PAKISTAN MINISTER OF STATE AZIZ AHMED RAISED ASSURANCES
QUESTION DURING MEETING WITH SECRETARY IN WASHINGTON
JUNE 3. AHMED NOTED DIFFICULTIES IN OBTAINING NEW ACTION
BY SECURITY COUNCIL PERMANENT MEMBERS, GIVEN PROBABLE
OPPOSITION FROM SOVIETS, CHINESE AND FRENCH. HOWEVER,
NEITHER
SIDE PURSUED THIS POINT. DURING DISCUSSIONS
HERE, AHMED WAS REASSURED OF CONTINUING US SUPPORT FOR
PAKISTAN'S INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AS
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STATED BY PRESIDENT IN HIS WELCOMING REMARKS DURING PRIME

MINISTER PHUTTO'S SEPTEMBER 1973 VISIT.

2. FOLLOWING FACTORS BEAR SIGNIFICANTLY ON SC ASSURANCES QUESTION:

A. WE CONTINUE TO FAVOR BROADEST POSSIBLE ADHERENCE TO NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY (NPT) AND WISH IN PARTICULAR TO ENCOURAGE COMPLETION OF RATIFICATION BY NUMBER OF IMPORTANT NON-NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES WHERE PROCESS IS WELL UNDER WAY. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE CONSIDER THAT DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE

SECURITY GUARANTEES BY SC PERMANENT MEMBERS TO NON-NPT PARTIES INCLUDING PAKISTAN COULD REDUCE INCENTIVES TO THOSE STATES TO RATIFY TREATY. (EXISTING ASSURANCES PROVIDED BY US, UK, AND USSR AT TIME OF COMPLETION OF NPT NEGOTIATIONS IN 1968 APPLY ONLY TO NON-NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES PARTIES TO THE NPT.)

B. IN ADDITION WE BELIEVE SC DISCUSSION OF QUESTION IN ITSELF COULD EXACERBATE DIFFICULTIES ARISING FROM CERTAIN COUNTRIES(ESPECIALLY PAKISTAN'S) PERCEPTION OF SECURITY SITUATION IN WAKE OF INDIAN TEST AND WEAKEN CREDIBILITY OF EXISTING ASSURANCES. SC PERMANENT MEMBERS VERY PROBABLY WOULD DISAGREE STRONGLY ON ISSUES OF NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION AS WELL AS SECURITY ASSURANCES. PRC, WHICH ATTACKED 1968 TRILATERAL ASSURANCES, WOULD PROBABLY BLOCK COUNCIL'S REFORMULATION OR REAFFIRMATION OF THOSE GUARANTEES. USSR COULD BE EXPECTED TO OPPOSE ANY ACTION WHICH APPEARED DIRECTED AGAINST INDIA. THESE AND OTHER DIFFERENCES COULD WELL LEAD TO LEVEL OF INTENSITY IN DEBATE WHICH WOULD HEIGHTEN TENSIONS AND HAVE FURTHER ADVERSE EFFECT ESPECIALLY ON REGIONAL RELATIONS IN SUB-CONTINENT.

3. NOTWITHSTANDING OUR VIEWS ON UNDESIRABILITY OF EFFORTS TO SEEK ASSURANCES TO NON-NUCLEAR STATES BY SECURITY COUNCIL PERMANENT MEMBERS, WE WISH TO AVOID PLACING USG IN ADVOCACY POSITION PRO OR CON ON QUESTION. ALTHOUGH WE WOULD CONSIDER INADVISABLE ANY EFFORT TO CONVENE SC IN THIS CONNECTION, WE DO NOT WISH TO APPEAR AS OVERT CONFIDENTIAL

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OPPONENT OF IDEA; WE HOPE INSTEAD THAT, AS AHMED'S REMARKS SEEM TO INDICATE, IMPRACTICALITY OF ACHIEVING SC CONSENSUS ON ISSUES INVOLVED WILL BECOME APPARENT TO PAKISTANIS WITH RESULT THEY QUIETLY DROP THIS APPROACH.

4. FOR USUN: IN DISCUSSION WITH KITTANI YOU SHOULD TAKE NON-COMMITTAL ATTITUDE ON QUESTION OF POSSIBLE SC INVOLVEMENT IN ASSURANCES QUESTION. IF KITTANI INQUIRES

AS TO SPECIFIC US POSITION, YOU SHOULD SAY WE WOULD BE PREPARED FOR SC DISCUSSION IF ALL PARTIES AFFECTED CONSIDERED THIS WOULD BE USEFUL. HOWEVER, NUMBER OF PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES ARE OBVIOUS TO US AND WE HOPE THOSE MOST DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH PROBLEM WILL TAKE THESE INTO ACCOUNT BEFORE PROCEEDING FURTHER IN DIRECTION OF SC SESSION.

5. FOR LONDON: YOU MAY RAISE FOREGOING POINTS WITH FCO, IN CONTEXT OF SOLICITING UK VIEWS RE POSSIBLE PAKISTANI INTEREST IN SEEKING SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION IN LIGHT OF BHUTTO LETTER TO HEADS OF GOVT OF PERMANENT UNSC MEMBERS.

YOU MAY INFORM FCO THAT DETAILED USG RESPONSE TO BHUTTO HAS NOT BEEN MADE, AND WE HAVE NOT REACHED DECISION ON BEST WAY OF HANDLING SUBSTANCE OF REQUEST FOR ASSURANCES. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN WHETHER UK INTENDS TO REPLY TO BHUTTO AND, IF SO, HOW.

6. FYI: INTERAGENCY REVIEW OF NON-PROLIFERATION ISSUES, INCLUDING MULTILATERAL SECURITY ASSURANCES, IS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY. END FYI. SISCO UNQUOTE. SISSCO UNQUOTE

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